VERSION 1101 | 3.11.11

New System Features and Enhancements

SYSTEM

Visual Studio and Infragistics Upgrade

To stay up with current technology and improve system performance and hardware efficiency, USA Staffing was migrated to Visual Studio 2010. Also, the system will be running in 64-bit mode.

Section 508 Standards

A variety of changes were made within USA Staffing and Application Manager to ensure compliance with Section 508 Standards.

Archiving Phase I

The system is now prepared to archive competitive, non-ACWA vacancies 3 or more years old. All vacancies meeting these criteria that are not marked as under litigation will be archived once the first cycle takes place. The archiving date has not been set. Advisory Board members will be notified two weeks prior to the first archiving cycle.

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DEMOGRAPHIC DATA COLLECTION

The applicant flow data will now be collected by USAJOBS using the Government-wide approved form announced in the joint EEOC and OPM memorandum O.M.B. No. 3046-0046 dated March 3, 2010. An online version of the Demographic Information on Applicants form will be presented to applicants on their first application through USAJOBS and subsequently for vacancies marked to collect demographic information.

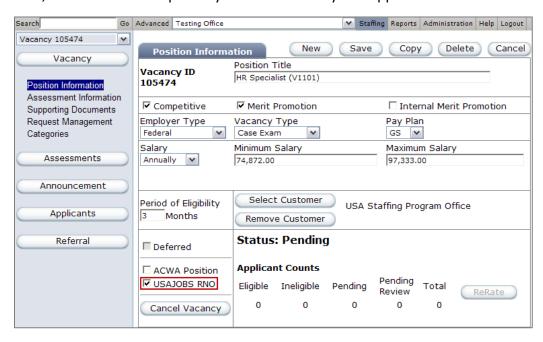
The MD-715 Position checkbox located on the Vacancy > Position Information page was removed and replaced with the USAJOBS RNO checkbox. This change accommodates the new process for collecting Race and National Origin (RNO) data from USAJOBS and accessing it in USA Staffing.

When an applicant clicks the USAJOBS Apply Online button for a vacancy set to collect USAJOBS RNO, they will be presented with the option to supply their demographic information. If an applicant agrees, they will be presented with the following questions:

- How did you learn about this position?
- Sex
- Ethnicity
- Race

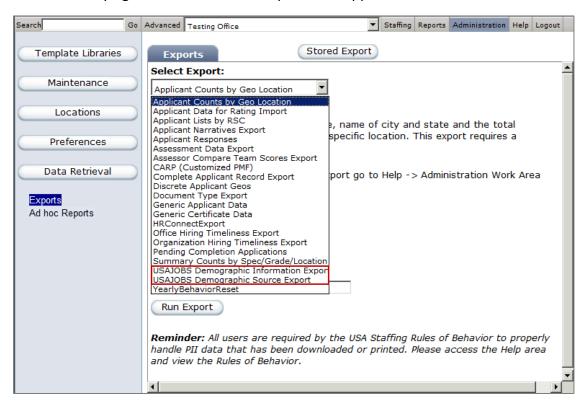
Responses to all questions are optional. If an applicant elects not to provide RNO information, they will only be presented with the first optional question, "How did you learn about this position?".

The completed form will be stored in the applicant's USAJOBS profile for re-use in subsequent applications. The applicant flow data will be submitted with the application; however, it will be stored separately from the vacancy and applicant's information.



The **USAJOBS RNO** box is automatically checked when a new Vacancy is created. If this option is left checked, USA Staffing will collect applicants' responses to the USAJOBS RNO questions when they submit their online application and users will be able to run data exports within USA Staffing. The following two exports located under Administration > Data Retrieval > Exports enable users to access this data:

- **USAJOBS Demographic Information Export.** This export displays aggregate data for applicants who answered the voluntary USAJOBS demographic data questions. Specifically, the export shows counts of applicants who applied, were rated qualified, and selected, broken down by race, ethnicity, and gender.
- **USAJOBS Demographic Source Export.** This export displays raw data for applicants who answered the voluntary USAJOBS demographic data questions. Specifically, the export contains applicants' race, ethnicity, gender, and recruitment source information. Note: This export contains no personally identifying information to link responses to applicants.

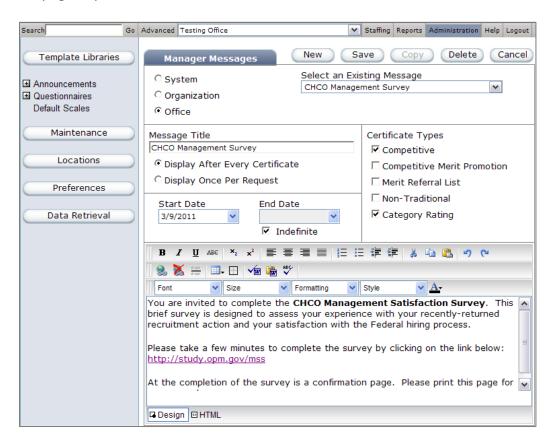


MANAGEMENT SATISFACTION (CHCO) SURVEY

The CHCO Management Survey message has been added under all USA Staffing offices to facilitate the collection of this survey data. USA Staffing now includes a Manager Messages page where users can utilize or modify the default message or create a custom message to be presented to selecting officials through Selection Manager when they return certificates electronically.

On the new Manager Messages page located under Administration > Preferences, users with the appropriate permission can create and store messages at the **Organization** or Office levels. Users can select between the following options: Display After Every Certificate or Display Once Per Request. Also, users can enable or disable messages by specifying a Start and End Date for the message to be presented in Selection Manager or leave it open by checking the *Indefinite* box. Messages can be linked to specific **Certificate Types** by checking the appropriate boxes.

Note: Since this survey data can now be collected electronically, the survey included on the last page of printed certificates has been removed.



Manager Messages Page

Agencies can modify the existing message or create custom messages at the Organization or Office levels. Please note that managers must navigate to see multiple messages by selecting the numbers at the bottom of the Messages page in Selection Manager; therefore, you may want to limit the number of messages you create and choose to display for each certificate. See page 6 for a sample of how multiple messages display.

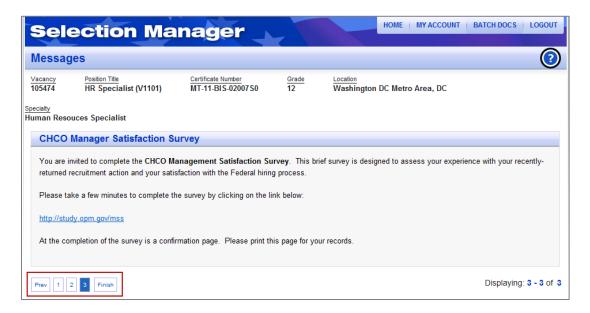
To create a new manager message, follow these steps:

- 1. Select the *Organization* or *Office* radio buttons depending on whether it will be available to all users under your Organization or only users under your Office.
- Click the New button.
- 3. Enter the *Message Title*.
- 4. Select one of the two options listed for display frequency:
 - a. Display After Every Certificate choose this option to display the message/survey after each certificate returned.
 - b. Display Once Per Request choose this option to display the message/survey only after the first certificate returned for each request.
- 5. Enter or select **Start Date** from the calendar.
- 6. Enter or select an *End Date* from the calendar. You can also check the *Indefinite* box if you want to display this message indefinitely.
- 7. Select all of the appropriate *Certificate Types* for this message to be presented to the selecting official.
- 8. Enter and format your message in the text box and click the **Save** button.

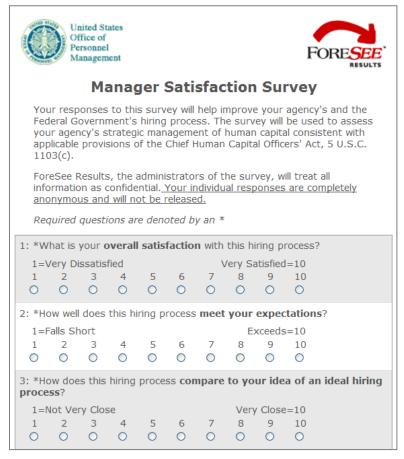
To modify an existing message, follow these steps:

- 1. Select the **Organization** or **Office** radio buttons based on the level the message was originally created under.
- 2. Select the message you want to modify from the Select an Existing Message drop-down list.
- 3. Make necessary changes.
- 4. Click the Save button.

After a manager returns a certificate through Selection Manager they will be presented with any active messages applicable for that certificate. Managers would need to click the numbers at the bottom of the page to see additional messages.



Once they click on the survey link, the following page will open in a separate window. Managers can then complete and submit the survey electronically.

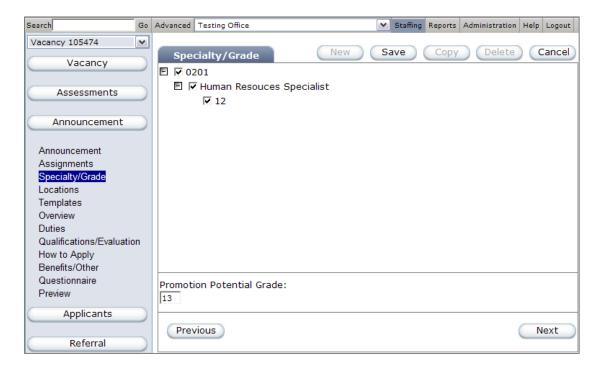


ANNOUNCEMENT

Specialty/Grade Page

Once an assessment is added to the vacancy, the system will automatically check all series, specialties, and grades on the Announcement > Specialty/Grade page (previously defaulted to un-checked). Users no longer have to manually check the series, specialties, and grades they want to include in their announcement unless they copy a vacancy and modify the assessment to add grades.

The system will not rate applicants for any unchecked series, specialty, and/or grade. The applicant record will show the IZ code (i.e., closed to receipt of new applications at this time) for all unchecked series, specialties, and/or grades.

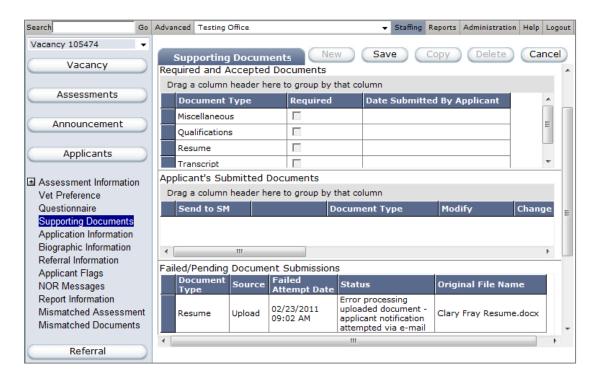


APPLICANTS

Supporting Documents Page

A third table titled *Failed/Pending Document Submissions* has been added to this page. This will let users easily see if there are any documents the applicant attempted to submit that are still in pending status or failed to be processed, prior to making a final determination to override the record for missing documents. Specifically, this table will include **Pending** documents waiting to be retrieved from USAJOBS or awaiting virus scan if uploaded directly in Application Manager. This table will not include pending faxed documents.

This new table will display the following fields: Document Type, Source, Failed Attempt Date and time, processing Status, and Original File Name. Please note this table will only be visible if there are any failed or pending document submissions for the applicant.



REFERRAL

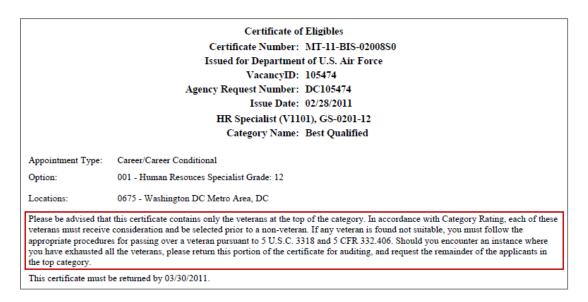
Ordering Criteria Page

Users now have the option to easily certify veterans only with the Category Rating certificate type. By checking the Refer Veterans Only box on the Ordering Criteria page, the system will create a stored list containing only applicants with claimed or adjudicated veterans' preference. Applicants who are adjudicated as NV- No Preference will not be included in the stored list. Please note that even if the **Refer Veterans Only** box is checked, the system will still properly refer all priority consideration applicants (e.g., CTAP/ICTAP) who meet or exceed the user-specified CTAP/ICTAP cut-off value regardless of their veterans' preference status.

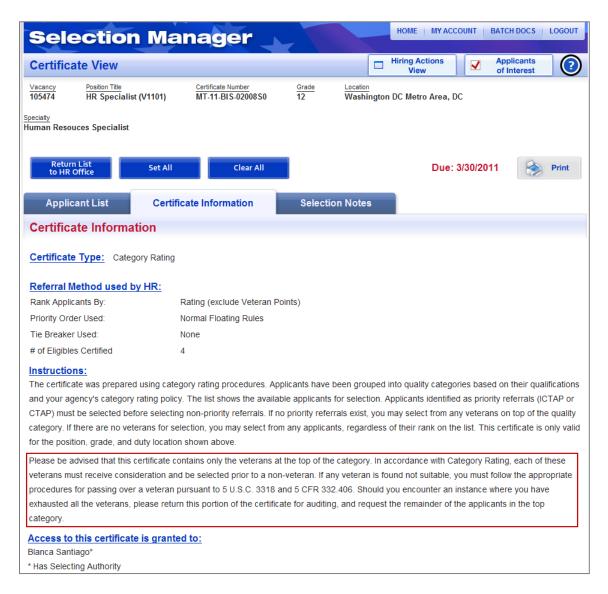
Note: The Refer Veterans Only option eliminates the need to use Advanced Criteria to filter veterans on a Category Rating certificate.



Certificates issued with the Refer Veterans Only option enabled, will display the following text on the printed certificate to inform selecting officials. Please note this text cannot by modified.



Certificates issued with the Refer Veterans Only option enabled, will also display the following text on the electronic certificate. Please note this text cannot by modified.



Certificate Page

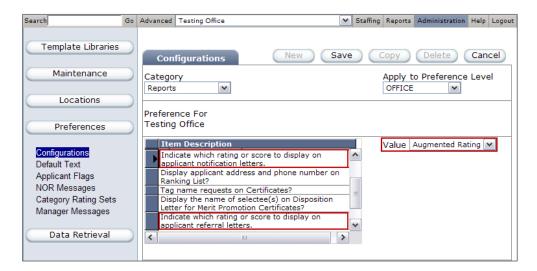
To reduce the incidents of users inadvertently reissuing certificates, a warning message is now presented when the *Reissue* button is selected. The *Reissue* button located on the Referral > Certificate page allows users to create a new version of an issued certificate. For example, the Reissue button can be used when new applicants have been added to the applicant pool and a user wants to recreate the certificate with the ordering criteria originally used. This button is not intended to be used as a way to resend a certificate to Selection Manager, amend a certificate, or create a supplemental certificate. Once users click the *Reissue* button, the system will present the message displayed below. Users can click Cancel to close the window and go back to the Ordering Criteria page or **OK** to proceed with the certificate reissuance.



REPORTS

Notification and Referral Letters

When the Reports configuration to indicate which rating or score to display on applicant notification/referral letters is set to display Augmented Rating, the system will automatically include the Minimum Qualifications Rating on Notification and Referral letters for Category Rating certificates. This change facilitates the requirement for notifications to exclude scores when Category Rating is used.



ADMINISTRATION

Office Code Expansion

Due to the continued growth of the USA Staffing program, we have extended our 2letter office code combinations. The office code capability was expanded from two to three alpha characters for *newly* created offices.

Note: Existing offices with a 2-letter code assigned will not be affected by this change.

The Vacancy ID TAG was modified to include only the 6-digit VIN, excluding the office code for all offices. For example, the revised *Vacancy ID TAG* will appear as *Vacancy ID*: 123456 on any announcement released to USAJOBS (or updated) after the release date (March 12, 2011). Applicants are now required to enter only the 6-digit VIN on the Fax Cover Page, OPM Form 1203-FX, and any other application materials. The fax processing system was modified to accommodate this change when processing documents. Documents faxed in including the 2-digit or 3-digit alpha code will be processed into the appropriate VIN.

Certificates issued under new offices will include the 3-letter code and all reports containing the Office Code field were modified to accommodate this change.

User and Contact Maintenance

Based on security requirements, the USA Staffing system will inactivate users who have not logged into the system in 90 days.

Note: Selection Manager users who have not logged into the system in 365 days will be inactivated at a later date yet to be determined.

USA Staffing will inactivate a user's access to an office that they have not logged into in 90 days. Inactivation occurs at the *Office* level, not the System level. Access is removed on the 91st day of inactivity. This process will not affect support users. Here are three common scenarios:

- If the user only has access to one office that is inactivated, they will either be marked **Deleted** or removed from the system (if they have never been linked to a VIN—being an internal contact, submitted by, assignee, issued a cert, etc.). If the user tries to log into the system, they will receive the same error presented when a user tries to login without an account. The Forgot User Name and **Forgot Password** links on the login page will not function.
- If the user has access to multiple offices that have all been inactive the same period of time (90 days), the outcome is the same as described above.

If the user has access to multiple offices, one or more of which was logged into within the last 90 days, they will only lose access to those offices which they have not logged into in 90 days or more. It will be like they were never granted access to those offices. The inactive offices will not show up in the user's office drop-down list nor will the office be listed on the Administration > User Maintenance page.

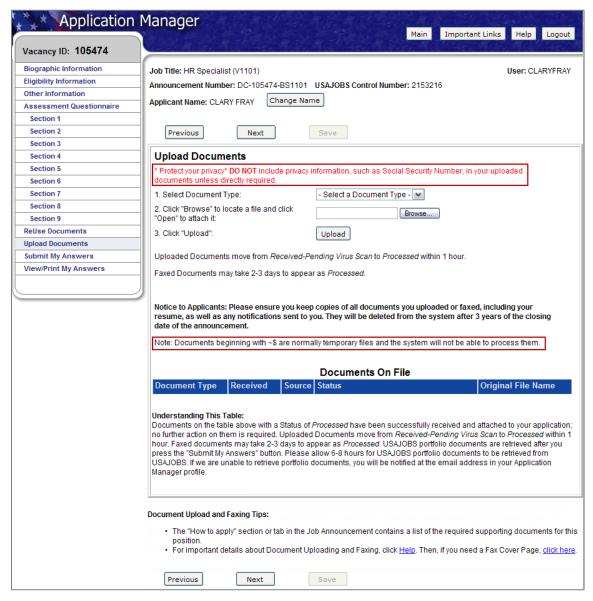
Re-activating Users: In any of these scenarios, inactive users must contact their USA Staffing Office Administrator to activate their accounts. Users with at least Office Administrator permission can re-add inactive users back into the system if appropriate. This would be done by logging into the inactive office, going to the Administration > User Maintenance page, clicking the New button, entering the inactivated user's email address, and going through the screen prompts to complete the process.

For users that were linked to a VIN (being an internal contact, submitted by, assignee, issued a cert, etc.), reactivation can also occur by clicking the Display Deleted checkbox, then opening the user's account, and removing the check next to **Deleted**. Multiple offices can be re-enabled for a user by opening their profile in Administration > User Maintenance and clicking the Add Office button. This allows Office Administrators to select offices linked to the Organization and add them one at a time.

Application Manager

Document Upload

The Application Manager Document Upload page now warns applicants to omit or blank out SSN or other privacy information before uploading documents. The following message has been added to the Document Upload page:



Also, when applicants upload temporary files (file names starting with "~\$"), the PDF conversion process fails and the documents cannot be processed. In an attempt to better inform applicants when completing their application, a warning message has been added to alert applicants that files starting with these characters may be temporary files and that proceeding with the file upload will result in the document not being processed. The following message has been added to the Upload Documents page: "Note: Documents beginning with ~\$ are normally temporary files and the system will not be able to process them."

Full Terms and Conditions of Use

The full terms and conditions of use statement is now displayed on the Application Manager login page. Previously this statement was displayed under a link.

Secret Questions

The secret questions used in Application Manager to help applicants reset their password have been changed to include more secure questions.

Application Status

Various changes were made in Application Manager to ensure the application status is clearly reflected in an applicant's record regardless of the applicant's initial Record Status Code (RSC) or overrides.

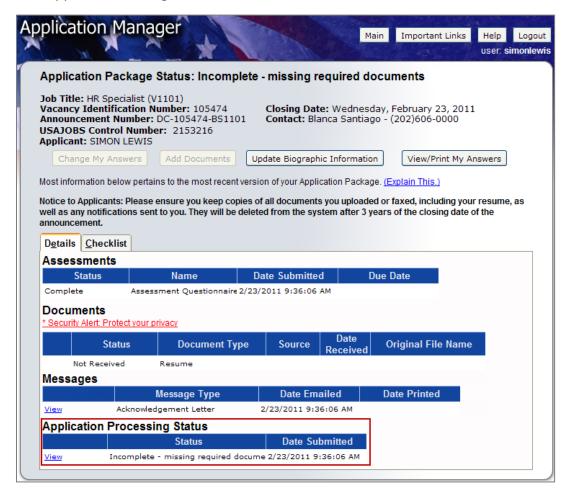
See Details Tab. This new status displays on the My Application Packages main page for applications rated Ineligible (IN). For example, this status will display for applications which rating was overridden to *Ineligible* for failure to submit required documents. In the Details Tab, applicants can view a copy of their questionnaire, submitted supporting documents, and any correspondence sent to them.



The Application Package History section in the Details Tab was changed to Application Processing Status to better inform applicants of the status of their application submission. The status displayed in this section is based on the Record Status Code in USA Staffing. For example,

- Applications with a Pending (e.g., PE, PJ, PQ, or PI) Record Status Code will show a Pending HR Specialist Action processing status in this section of Application Manager until the error is corrected and/or the record is rated.
- Applications with a Pending Results (PL) Record Status Code will show an Awaiting Results - you will be notified processing status in this section of Application Manager until the record is rated.

Applications with a Pending Form (PF) Record Status Code will display the Incomplete - missing required documents processing status in this section of Application Manager until the record is rated.



Applications rated with Eligible or Ineligible (i.e., AA or IN) will display a Complete processing status in this section of Application Manager.

System Corrections

SYSTEM

Login Page

The USA Staffing and Selection Manager login pages no longer instruct users to contact their office managers for assistance when they are disabled due to three unsuccessful login attempts. The following message is now displayed: "Your account has been disabled. Use the Forgot User Name or Forgot Password links on the Login page to continue." Users can click one of these links to receive their user name or reset their password, enable their accounts, and log back into the system.

STAFFING AREA

Announcement > Position Information Page

The *Cancel Vacancy* button was disabled for users with *View Only* access to the Vacancy section.

Announcement > Preview Page

The error presented when users attempted to release an announcement to USAJOBS about missing specialties/grades was actually related to missing Internal or External Contact information on the Announcement page. This has been corrected and the appropriate error messages will now display as described below:

If the problem is related to the internal/external contact information, the following message will display: "Please reselect the Internal/External Contact and Save."

If the problem is related to unchecked series/specialties/grades, the following message will display: "Please go to the Announcement-Specialty/Grade page and reselect the series/specialties/grades you need for this announcement."

Announcement > Preview Page> Release to USAJOBS

The issue causing no error message to display on the Preview page when announcements failed to release/un-release in USAJOBS was corrected. The system now presents an error message on the Preview page to inform users that the transaction failed and ask them to retry to release/un-release the announcement.

REPORTS AREA

CARP Export

The issue causing this export to run incorrectly for vacancies with multiple locations has been corrected. Previously, when the CARP was exported the report would shift the columns for the multiple locations under other columns causing the misalignment of the applicant responses. All locations now display under the Locations column and response fields are aligned properly under each question.

ADMINISTRATION AREA

Maintenance > User Maintenance

This defect was related to licensed users who are also assigned as a customer contact. When the licensed user's record was deleted and the user remained assigned as a contact, the license key was not being removed from the record. The license key is now removed from the record, freeing up the license to be assigned to another user.

APPLICATION MANAGER

Default Scale

The defect causing applicants to see response text in a different order than what was entered in the USA Staffing Questionnaire Builder was corrected (e.g., response A text was displayed under response B). Default Scale responses text is now displayed in the correct order next to the appropriate response option as entered in the Questionnaire Builder.

Narratives Display

The issue causing narratives to appear at the end of the section after all the questions has been corrected. The narratives will appear under the question they are associated with in the questionnaire.

Fax Cover Page

The fax cover page was displaying on the Application Package Detail page. Since the fax cover page contains the applicant's SSN which is required to match the faxed documents to the applicant's record, it will no longer be displayed in the documents table.